



**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently amended) A reel for metallic wire comprising:  
a cylindrical winding drum; and  
a pair of flanges provided integrally on right and left sides of the cylindrical winding drum, wherein  
a winding face of the cylindrical winding drum is wrapped by a cylindrical elastically deformable drum cover plate provided with a gap between the drum cover plate and the winding face and configured to cover substantially an entire periphery of the winding face, and  
the drum cover plate has a discontinuous portion consisting of a slit to absorb a winding pressure applied to the drum cover plate.
2. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 1, wherein the drum cover plate is comprised of a pair of drum cover plate portions each having a free end and a base end and each having a semicircular cross-section, and the drum cover plate is placed to wrap substantially the entire periphery of the winding face of the winding drum by attaching the drum cover plate portions to the winding face of the winding drum and then by welding the base ends to each other to form the discontinuous portion between the free ends.
3. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 1, wherein the drum cover plate is comprised of a pair of drum cover plate portions each having a semicircular cross-section, and the drum cover plate is placed to wrap substantially the entire periphery of the winding face of the winding drum by welding joint end faces of the drum cover plate portions to each other so as to form the discontinuous portion at a boundary where the pair of drum cover plate portions are divided into right and left parts, the discontinuous portion extending over an entire circumference of the drum cover plate.
4. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 1, wherein the discontinuous portion is a slit extending in a direction perpendicular to an axis of the winding drum.

5. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 1, wherein the discontinuous portion is a slit extending in a direction parallel to an axis of the winding drum.

6. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 1, wherein the discontinuous portion is a slit extending in a direction inclined to a predetermined angle with respect to an axis of the winding drum.

7. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 4, wherein the slit is shaped in smooth curve as seen in a plan view.

8. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 5, wherein the slit is shaped in smooth curve as seen in a plan view.

9. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 6, wherein the slit is shaped in smooth curve as seen in a plan view.

10. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 4, wherein the slit is shaped in straight line as seen in a plan view.

11. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 5, wherein the slit is shaped in straight line as seen in a plan view.

12. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 6, wherein the slit is shaped in straight line as seen in a plan view.

13. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 4, wherein the slit is shaped to be continuous triangular-wave as seen in a plan view.

14. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 5, wherein the slit is shaped to be continuous triangular-wave as seen in a plan view.

15. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 6, wherein the slit is shaped to be continuous triangular-wave as seen in a plan view.

16. (Original) A reel for metallic wire comprising:  
a cylindrical winding drum; and  
a pair of flanges provided integrally on right and left sides of the winding drum,  
wherein

a winding face of the cylindrical winding drum is wrapped by a cylindrical drum cover plate provided with a gap between the drum cover plate and the winding face and configured to cover substantially entire periphery of the winding face,

a corner plate having a L-shaped cross-section is provided at a joint portion between the winding drum and each of the flanges,

a flange contact plate having a ring-shaped planar shape is fixed to an inner face of each of the flanges,

an inner peripheral portion of each of the flange contact plates is welded to an end portion of a vertical portion of each of the corner plates, and

an outer peripheral portion of the drum cover plate is welded to an end portion of a horizontal portion of each of the corner plates.

17. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 16, wherein the drum cover plate has a discontinuous portion to absorb a winding pressure applied to the drum cover plate.

18. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 16, wherein a L-shaped bent portion of the corner plate has an arc-shaped inner face.

19. (Previously presented) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 1, wherein a spiral structure formed by molding steel in a coil shape is provided on an inner side of the cylindrical winding drum.

20. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 19, wherein the spiral structure is spot welded to the inner face of the winding drum.

21. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 19, wherein the steel has a rectangular cross-section.

22. (Original) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 19, wherein the steel has a triangular or T-shaped cross-section and an outer portion of the spiral structure has a flat face.

23. (Previously presented) The reel for metallic wire according to Claim 16, wherein a spiral structure formed by molding steel in a coil shape is provided on an inner side of the cylindrical winding drum.